



# Illinois Ethics Matters

March 25, 2015

[www.inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov](http://www.inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov)

## *Honesty, Integrity, Service*

A newsletter from the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies  
of the Illinois Governor

### Office of Executive Inspector General

**Ricardo Meza**  
Executive  
Inspector General

**Daniel Hurtado**  
Chief of Staff &  
General Counsel

**Fallon Opperman**  
Deputy Inspector  
General & Chief of  
Chicago Division

**Thomas Klein**  
Deputy Inspector  
General & Chief of  
Springfield Division

**Brandon Myers**  
Deputy Inspector  
General & Chief of  
Regional Transit Board  
Division

**Claudia P. Ortega**  
Director of Finance and  
Administration

**Chicago Office:**  
69 W. Washington St.  
Suite 3400  
Chicago, IL 60602  
(312) 814-5600

**Springfield Office:**  
607 E. Adams St.  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 558-5600

**Hotline:**  
Phone: (866) 814-1113

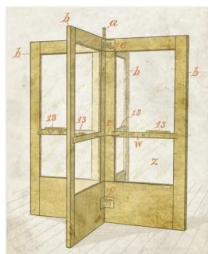
**TTY:**  
(888) 261-2734

### Recent News

The OEIG is pleased to announce the following additions to its staff:

- **Susan Haling** was named Special Counsel and Deputy Inspector General in the Chicago Office, effective March 30, 2015.
- **Dirk De Lor** was named Assistant Inspector General in the Chicago Division, effective March 16, 2015.

### Two OEIG Revolving Door Determinations Recently Affirmed



In recent weeks, two OEIG revolving door determinations were affirmed on appeal. In one matter issued December 22, 2014, the issue was whether the state employee, a financial analyst in the Governor's Office of Management and Budget, could accept employment with Wells Fargo, NA. The OEIG determined that the employee had participated in the scoring of contract proposals that resulted in an award to Wells Fargo, and therefore that he was restricted from accepting employment with Wells Fargo. The employee appealed, but the Executive Ethics Commission (EEC) affirmed the OEIG's determination that scoring the proposals constituted personal and substantial participation in the award of a contract.

In the other matter, the issue was whether the state employee, a Department of Human Services employee, could accept employment with Community Resource Associates (CRA). DHS had contracted with CRA to assist in the transition of residents from one development center to another. During the year prior to his departure from state employment, the state employee recommended the renewal of the CRA contract. The OEIG found that the state employee had participated personally and substantially in the renewal decision and so was restricted from accepting employment with CRA. On appeal, the EEC affirmed this determination.

In both appeals, the OEIG's determination was supported by the Office of Illinois Attorney General. It should be noted that both employees complied with the revolving door law by seeking the OEIG's determination prior to accepting non-state employment and that the OEIG's determinations are *not* equivalent to a finding of wrongdoing by either employee. Copies of the two decisions are available on the OEIG's website.

**Daniel Hurtado**  
Chief of Staff & General Counsel

### OEIG Finds Improper Political Use of Email at Illinois State University

An OEIG investigation involving use of state email for political purposes became public on Feb. 18, 2015. [In re: Tricia Reimer \(14-00544\)](#), the OEIG found that an ISU employee inappropriately used her state computer to engage in prohibited political activity, a violation of the state's ethics laws. Although the employee could have faced a fine of up to \$5,000, the OEIG exercised its discretion and did not refer the matter to the Office of Attorney General for review.

The prohibited political email urged recipients to vote for a particular candidate in the 2014 General Gubernatorial Primary election.

"State employees may not use state email to promote a candidate." - **EIG Meza**

With municipal elections in early April 2015, state employees are reminded not to use state resources (state computers or email accounts) in connection with a political campaign. Recipients of improper emails should notify their ethics officers.

**Fallon Opperman**  
Deputy Inspector General &  
Chief of Chicago Division

**Calendar of Events:** March 26, 2015: EIG Meza will appear before the Senate Appropriations II Committee. April 9, 2015: EIG Meza will appear before the House Committee on Appropriations – General Services.

Please contact David Morrison at [david.morrison@illinois.gov](mailto:david.morrison@illinois.gov) or the sender of this newsletter if you wish to unsubscribe.